

## Abstract

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The invention relates to a method for tracking control of a head unit with respect to data tracks on a data medium and in particular on a magnetic tape. On the magnetic tape, the data tracks are split into successive data sections which, for their part, are each divided into an initial region and a useful region. At least one control track extends over the entire length of the data section, in each data section. In addition to this, an additional control track is provided in the initial region of each data section, and is likewise used for tracking control. The data for tracking control, which are obtained while the initial region is moving past a head unit, are also used in order to improve the tracking control while the useful region is moving past the head unit. Fast and good tracking control is achieved in this way.

The invention also relates to a recording method which is matched according to the method of the invention for tracking control.

Figure 2.